

1 The definition of an emergency act has been
2 before the Court of Appeals in a number of cases. The Chair-
3 man pro tem suggests just last Friday one situation. There is
4 even a better illustration. I think in a case that came
5 out of Baltimore City some fifteen or twenty years ago in
6 which the Court of Appeals ruled that a bill to provide
7 adequate sewage treatment in an area of Baltimore City
8 in which there were sewers in the street was not necessary
9 for the preservation of the public health and welfare, and
10 therefore was not properly definable as an emergency law.

11 I think what the Committee here has overlooked
12 is that the term; emergency legislation, whether the legis-
13 lature is beguiled or not is always something for review
14 by the courts. Also the Committee overlooks when they
15 grasp the word special legislation that the words, emer-
16 gency legislation, have been a part of the lexicon of
17 the law of this State for many years.

18 We know what it means and it makes the legislators,
19 those who are conscientious, think before they act because
20 the law contains a very long and somewhat complex and
21 perhaps a little prolix , but nevertheless clear clause